

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for her great work on this committee and for bringing forth this amendment. It is an excellent amendment, and I support it.

We need to do everything we can to improve the workforce development programs in our country.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, we have had an opportunity to work together on WIOA, but unfortunately, my colleagues in the majority are more concerned about maintaining the status quo and placating favored stakeholders.

What American workers and employers need is a workforce system that prioritizes them over special interests, and the Republican alternative would do that.

I urge my colleagues to help us pass an alternative proposal that works for America, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, we are here today to modernize and reauthorize the Nation's premier job training program to help jobseekers and workers connect with well-paying jobs and career pathways.

Although the substitute offered by our colleagues does not meet the urgent needs to strengthen the programs, I do want to make it clear that we welcome the opportunity to have further discussion as the bill heads toward the Senate. My goal is to forge common ground wherever we can, and I am hoping that this can be the beginning, not the end, of the conversation.

The Republican substitute reauthorizes funding for the formula programs, regrettably, at roughly the same levels as we have today. The status quo is not working. As a result, the substitute will not provide the level of intensive training needed to move people into higher wage jobs.

The average amount the adult formula program spends per participant today is about \$2,000, not nearly enough to provide quality job training to lead to good jobs with competitive wages, benefits, and other hallmarks of job quality. The Republican substitute continues the unacceptable status quo with respect to underinvestment in training.

To meet the moment, the underlying bill also codifies SECTOR grants, which are demonstrated to be effective in training workers for jobs in high-demand sectors.

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) talked about electric cars. We need a lot of training in that area, but

regrettably, the substitute omits the SECTOR grants.

Our committee meetings held last year highlighted bipartisan support for reentry programs for justice-involved individuals. In response, the bill codifies the program at the Department of Labor and commits \$250 million for fiscal year 2023, more than double the amount appropriated this year, and provides stable funding amounting to \$2.3 billion over 6 years.

With 600,000 individuals released from our prisons and jails each year, close to half of them experiencing repeat contact with the criminal justice system within a year, funding levels in the substitute do not come close to meeting the critical needs to invest in services to help these individuals obtain and retain employment.

We also reject the requirement of the substitute for non-Federal match to receive a grant. This matching requirement is not part of the existing grant program and would exclude many grassroots organizations that are best positioned to meet the needs of justice-involved individuals in our communities.

When we provide subsidies to employers in the form of on-the-job training or customized training, we also need to make sure that it is matched by job quality.

The Republican substitute, regrettably, leaves too many disconnected youth behind.

To help our youth, whether in school or not, gain life skills, the bill invests almost \$1 billion in fiscal year 2023 for summer and year-round youth employment opportunities. The evidence is abundant that these youth employment opportunities increase lifelong earnings and reduce engagement in the criminal justice system.

The Republican substitute also fails to meet the moment and address the needs of the workers in the 21st century, so I urge a "no" vote on this amendment.

In the remaining time, Madam Speaker, I would like to thank members of my staff on the Committee of Education and Labor. They worked hard on this legislation, starting with Kevin McDermott, Scott Estrada, Lorin Obler, Phoebe Ball, Danyelle Honore, Jessica Schieder, and former staff members Richard Miller and Katie McClelland.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1119, the previous question is ordered on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 7309 is postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1646

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE) at 4 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4426. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1596. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Section 1295b(h) of title 46 App., United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, and upon the recommendation of the Ranking Member of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) (Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation).

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) (Committee on Appropriations).

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 17, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 1095(b)(1)(C)-(D) of the National Defense